



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Apartment Fire



#### **SANTA BARBARA, CA – 12/31/11**

Santa Barbara City Firefighters responded to an apartment fire located in the 500 block of West Cannon Perdido at approximately 2:17 on December 31, 2011. Engines 1, 6, 5, Truck 1 and the on duty Battalion Chief all responded to the call. The first arriving Engine Company on scene reported heavy smoke coming from a second story apartment window. The building involved was a two story multi-unit apartment building.

The building with the involved unit was evacuated while fire crews conducted a quick and aggressive fire attack. Firefighters extinguished the flames by simultaneously using charged lines inside the involved unit while the Truck Company cut a ventilation hole in the roof above the unit letting smoke and super heated gases escape the building. Due to these aggressive tactics the fire was contained to just one unit of the building.

Multiple tenants were displaced due to the fire. Red Cross representatives were on scene providing assistance to those affected by the incident.

The on duty Fire Investigator determined the fire originated in the kitchen and was accidental in nature due to cooking. Initial estimates of the fire damage are set at \$75,000. No injuries were reported.

Cooking is the number one cause of residential fires in the United States. The Santa Barbara City Fire Department would like to remind citizens to the following guidelines while cooking. Never leave cooking food unattended. If a fire should start in a pan slowly slide a lid over the pan using an oven mitt and turn off the gas or electricity to the pan. Never pour water onto a cooking oil or grease fire as this may cause the fire to spread to combustibles in the kitchen. Always have a fire extinguisher in the kitchen and know how to use it properly.

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